

TITLE 15 GAMBLING AND LIQUOR CONTROL
CHAPTER 6 BOXING, WRESTLING, AND MARTIAL ARTS
PART 8 CONDUCT OF BOXING CONTESTS

15.6.8.1 ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico Athletic Commission.
[15.6.8.1 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.2 SCOPE: The provisions in Part 8 apply to all licensees of the commission.
[15.6.8.2 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Part 8 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 is promulgated pursuant to the Professional Athletic Competition Act, Sections 60-2A-1 through 60-2A-30, NMSA 1978 (1980 Repl. Pam.); specifically Sections 60-2A-2, 60-2A-4, 60-2A-8, 60-2A-9, 60-2A-10, 60-2A-20, 60-2A-21, 60-2A-29, and 60-2A-31.
[15.6.8.3 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.4 DURATION: Permanent.
[15.6.8.4 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: March 23, 2002, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[15.6.8.5 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.6 OBJECTIVE: The objective of Part 8 of Chapter 6 is to set forth all commission requirements for the conduct of any boxing contests regulated by the commission.
[15.6.8.6 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.7 DEFINITIONS: “Contests” are considered “boxing contests” and not “fights” or “prize fights”.
[15.6.8.7 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.8 CHANGES IN ANNOUNCED OR ADVERTISED BOXING PROGRAMS:
A. Notice of change required: A notice of any change in the announced or advertised programs for any main event contest must be filed with, and approved by, the commission at least 48 hours before the weighing-in time of the contest.
B. Posting of notice: Notices of any such change or substitution must also be conspicuously posted at all box offices on the premises and announced from the ring before the opening boxing contest.
C. Refund policy: If any patrons apply for refunds on their purchased tickets, the promoter or promoting corporation shall make such refunds upon demand, provided such tickets are presented at the box office on the day or night of the contest.
[15.6.8.8 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.9 DURATION OF MATCHES:
A. Non-championship matches: In non-championship matches, contestants may only be matched for four, six, or ten rounds unless otherwise approved by the commission.
B. World championship matches: World championship matches must not exceed 12 rounds in duration.
C. State championship matches: State championship matches may be conducted for 12 rounds, at the direction of the commission.
[15.6.8.9 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.10 BOXING ROUNDS:
A. Number of boxing rounds allowed: There shall be no less than 26 scheduled rounds of boxing on any one program, unless otherwise approved by the commission.
B. Round duration and intermission between rounds for male contestants: Each round shall be three minutes in duration and there shall be one-minute rest period intermissions allowed between rounds.
C. Round duration and intermission for female contestants: All bouts for female boxer shall be scheduled for no more than 10 rounds with each round lasting two minutes in duration, with rest period

intermissions of one minute duration between rounds.

[15.6.8.10 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.11 CONTESTANTS' SECONDS:

- A. Approval of seconds by commission:** the commission must approve all seconds.
- (1) Each contestant must submit the name of his chief second and his assistant second to the commission for approval.
 - (2) Only seconds approved by the commission shall be permitted in the contestant's corner.
 - (3) Before the fight begins, the referee must be informed who the chief second is.
- B. Number of seconds per contestant:**
- (1) The maximum number of seconds a contestant may have is three.
 - (2) Only one of a boxer's seconds will be permitted inside the ring ropes between rounds.
- C. Conduct of seconds:**
- (1) Seconds must remain seated during each round.
 - (2) Seconds must not interfere with or move a boxer who has been knocked down until they are instructed to do so by the ringside physician.
 - (3) Seconds are prohibited from entering the ring between rounds and assisting a contestant back to his corner unless the boxing contest has been terminated by the referee or ringside physician.
 - (4) Seconds are prohibited from throwing any towel, sponge, etc., into the ring as a token of defeat.
 - (5) A second may step on the ring apron to retire his boxer in defeat.

[15.6.8.11 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 1/30/2024]

15.6.8.12 CONTESTANTS' EQUIPMENT:

- A. Gloves:** The following requirements apply to the gloves that must be used by contestants in an event.
- (1) Gloves for main events shall be new.
 - (2) Gloves for any bout scheduled for 10 or more rounds shall be new.
 - (3) Gloves are to be furnished by the licensed promoter or licensed promoter corporation.
 - (4) Gloves used in any boxing event must be no less than eight ounces in weight for boxers who weight 154 pounds or less; and at least 10 ounces in weight for boxers who weight over 154 pounds or are female. All gloves must be thumb attached or minus the thumb and approved by the commission.
 - (5) Gloves shall be identical and shall not be altered in any manner.
- B. Shoes:** Only shoes of soft material that are not fitted with spikes, cleats, hard soles, or hard heels shall be permitted in the ring.
- C. Mouthpieces:** Each contestant shall wear an individually fitted mouthpiece that shall remain in the contestant's mouth at all times during the competition.
- (1) The round cannot begin until the contestants are wearing mouthpieces.
 - (2) If the mouthpiece is dislodged during competition, the referee will call time at the first opportune moment without interfering with the immediate action and have the mouthpiece replaced.
 - (3) The referee shall direct the other contestant to the farthest neutral corner and escort the contestant with the dislodged mouthpiece to his or her corner to have the mouthpiece rinsed and replaced.
 - (4) The referee may deduct points or disqualify a participant if he deems that the mouthpiece is being intentionally spit out.
- D. Abdominal guards:** Contestants shall wear an abdominal guard of a standard type that provides sufficient protection to withstand any low blow.
- E. Boxing trunks and protective cups:** All contestants shall be required to wear boxing trunks, the belt of which shall not extend above the waistline and protective cups that shall be firmly in place before the contestant enters the ring.

[15.6.8.12 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.13 NUMBER OF BOXING CONTEST OFFICIALS REQUIRED: There shall be at least one physician in attendance at ringside at all times. In addition, at least the following officials shall be present at each boxing contest:

- A.** one referee;
- B.** three judges;

- C. one timekeeper; and
- D. one announcer.

[15.6.8.13 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 8/26/2012]

15.6.8.14 POSITION OF JUDGES AND PHYSICIANS:

- A. **Judges:** The judges shall be stationed at opposite sides of the ring.
- B. **Physicians:** The physician shall be stationed at places designated by the commission

representative in charge.

[15.6.8.14 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.15 FEMALE BOXERS: The weight classes for female boxers shall be the same as used by male boxers.

- A. A female boxer must be qualified to perform as a boxing contestant before she enters the ring.
- B. A female boxer shall not engage in a contest with a male boxer.
- C. In addition to meeting such requirements of the commission's rules that are applicable to boxers generally, a female boxer shall comply with the following rules:

- (1) use a mouthpiece specifically designed for her mouth;
- (2) use glove sizes as follows:
 - (a) female boxers up to 154 lbs. shall use 8 ounce gloves, properly fitted; and
 - (b) female boxers over 154 lbs. shall use 10 ounce gloves, properly fitted.
- (3) secure her hair with soft and non-abrasive material in a manner that does not interfere with the vision or safety of either contestant; and
- (4) not use facial cosmetics.

D. Female contestants shall be permitted to wear a body shirt or blouse without buttons, buckles or ornaments. Other apparel or equipment is prohibited.

E. All female boxers must provide a **negative pregnancy test** prior to each bout.

F. A contest between female boxers must be limited to 10 rounds of two minutes duration, with one minute rest periods between rounds.

G. The promoters of a contest between female boxers shall provide the female contestants with adequate dressing rooms separate from the dressing rooms of male boxers.

[15.6.8.15 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 1/30/2024]

15.6.8.16 BOXING CONTESTANTS:

A. **Non-main event contestants:** All contestants, except main event contestants, participating in the boxing program must report to the designated dressing room of the event premises no later than one half hour before the commencement of the first scheduled boxing contest.

B. **Arrival of main event contestants to event city:** Not less than 24 hours before the contest, a main event contestant shall report in person to the promoter in the city where the match will take place.

(1) Promoters shall immediately notify the commission that the main event contestants have arrived.

(2) If the bout is of sufficient importance, the contestants shall complete their training in the city concerned. The commission shall determine the number of days required for this purpose.

C. **Main event contestants report for event:** Main event contestants may report to the contest location no later than one hour before the commencement of the first boxing contest.

D. **Confinement to dressing rooms:** All contestants will remain in their dressing rooms until ordered to the ring by the commission representative in charge.

E. **Physical appearance:** Before entering the ring. Their hair must be trimmed, and when necessary, tied back in such a way as to not cover the contestant's face or to interfere with the vision or safety of either contestant.

F. **Contestant's ring costume:**

(1) Each contestant on a program must provide himself with a ring costume approved by the commission.

(2) Each contestant's costume must include a foul-proof groin protector of the contestant's own selection, but of a type to be approved by the commission, which will avert any claims of a low blow being made during the contest.

G. **Contestant's conduct after boxing contest is finished:**

(1) After the decision of any boxing contest has been announced, each contestant and his seconds must leave the ring at once and retire to the contestant's dressing room.

(2) Each contestant is prohibited from indicating in any way to the officials or the spectators his opinion as to whether he won or lost the boxing contest.

[15.6.8.16 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 1/30/2024]

15.6.8.17 WEIGHING-IN CEREMONIES:

A. Schedules of ceremonies: The times and places of all weigh-in ceremonies for indoor or outdoor programs shall be determined by the commission. However, all weigh-ins shall take place no later than twelve o'clock noon on the day of the contest.

B. Contestant weigh-ins: All contestants shall be weighed-in on scales approved by the commission, and in the presence of their opponents and the commission representative.

C. Postponement of weigh-in: In the event a boxing contest is postponed, for any reason whatsoever, more than 24-hours prior to the contest, a second weigh-in and additional physical examinations may be required on the day to which the boxing contest has been rescheduled.

[15.6.8.17 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 08/26/2012]

15.6.8.18 ADJUSTMENT OF CONTESTANT'S GLOVES: In all boxing contests, the gloves of each contestant will be adjusted under the supervision of the commission representative in charge.

A. Laces: The laces of each glove shall be knotted on the back of the wrists.

B. Adhesive Tape: A strip of one-inch to two-inch adhesive tape shall be placed on the wrists of the gloves, over the laces.

C. Removal of gloves: The contestant's gloves must be removed after the boxing contest and before the contestant leaves the ring.

[15.6.8.18 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 1/30/2024]

15.6.8.19 LICENSURE OF AGENTS REQUIRED: The commission shall issue licenses to all agents present to perform functions representative of the commission at a boxing program. This requirement shall include box office attaches, ticket collectors, doormen, glove men, seconds, managers, and any others performing duties specified and ordered by the commission at a boxing program.

[15.6.8.19 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.20 THE REFEREE:

A. Referee's wearing apparel: The commission shall prescribe the type, style, and color of the referee's apparel.

B. Referee instructs the contestants: Before the start of each boxing contest, the referee must call the contestants together for final instructions. Each contestant may only be accompanied by his chief second, except in cases where a contestant also requires the services of an interpreter. After receiving the referee's instructions, the contestants shall shake hands and retire to their respective corners to await the gong for the first round.

[15.6.8.20 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.21 INSPECTORS:

A. Appointed by the commission: The commission shall appoint inspectors to be present at boxing contests. Inspectors shall work in cooperation and in conjunction with any police officers as may be detailed for this duty at boxing contests.

B. Prohibitions to assigning officials: The commission will not and shall not assign officials who are directly or indirectly associated with, including but not limited to any financial interest in, the management of any contestant; or who is an individual promoter; or who is a stockholder in, or employee of, a promoter corporation or an unincorporated club or association engaged in the promotion of contests.

[15.6.8.21 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 8/26/2012]

15.6.8.22 PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

A. Excessive spraying of water on contestant: Any excessive or undue spraying or throwing of water on any contestant between rounds is forbidden.

B. Application of monsel's solution: The application of monsel's solution, or any use of its derivatives on the body of the contestant between rounds, is prohibited.

C. Persons forbidden to coach contestants: The employees of any licensed promoter and the matchmaker are forbidden from coaching any contestant at any time during the progress of any boxing contest.

D. Persons disqualified from officiating: Officials, directors, matchmakers, or stockholders of any promoting corporation or licensed club are disqualified from officiating in any capacity at any boxing contest conducted by such corporation. They are also prohibited from interfering in any way with the contestants participating in said boxing program.

E. Persons prohibited from holding financial interest in contest: No official or employee of this commission, or of its medical panels or medical advisory board, and no judge or referee licensed by this commission may, directly or indirectly, have any financial interest in any contestant, wrestler, promoting corporation, or in any manager's contract with any licensed athlete, or in any assignment thereof.

[15.6.8.22 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.23 [RESERVED]

[15.6.8.23 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002; A, 8/26/2012; Repealed, 1/15/2015]

15.6.8.24 OUTDOOR BOXING CONTESTS: The following special rules and regulations pertain to outdoor boxing programs only. All other rules and regulations of the commission not affected or modified below remain in full force and effect for all outdoor boxing contests, as well as, other boxing programs.

A. Postponement of boxing event: In the event of rain immediately before or during the course of any outdoor boxing program, except during the course of the main event, the promoter may postpone the program to a time and place approved by the commission.

(1) An announcement giving the full details of the postponement shall be made by the promoter.

(2) Any patron desiring a refund of the purchase price of his ticket may apply for the refund at the box office on the premises, except when the main boxing contest is held on the scheduled date or one of the successive rain-out dates indicated on the ticket.

(3) All contestants who have fulfilled their boxing contracts before the rain-out, shall be paid in full by the promoter.

(4) On the date to which the program is postponed, the promoter shall have scheduled substitute boxing contests in such number and duration as directed by the commission.

B. Rearrangement or shortening of program: In the event of threatening weather and rain, the program of boxing contests may be rearranged or shortened by the promoter with the consent of the commission representative in charge.

C. Reimbursement of expenses to contestants: All contestants in boxing contests, other than the main event, who were unable to compete because of weather conditions or a rearrangement or shortening of the boxing program, shall have their expenses and other fees paid by the promoter as the commission representative in charge may direct.

D. Stopping the boxing contest because of rain: In the event that rain occurs after the main event is completed, the boxing program shall be considered as having been completed.

(1) In the event of rain during the progress of the main event, the boxing contest shall be continued or stopped at the discretion of the commission representative in charge.

(2) If the main boxing contest is stopped, the provisions of Subsection A of 15.6.8.24 NMAC as to postponement and refunds shall apply.

[15.6.8.24 NMAC - N, 3/23/2002]

15.6.8.25 AMATEUR CONTESTS: All provisions in this section apply to all amateur events, contests, and exhibitions, unless the amateur event, contest, or exhibition is conducted pursuant to the rules for that form that are approved by the commission before the event, contest, or exhibition is conducted.

[15.6.8.25 NMAC - N, 1/15/2015]

HISTORY of 15.6.8 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC History:

Material in the part was derived from that previously filed with the commission of public records - state records center and archives:

NMAC 80-4, Conduct of Licensees, filed 9/24/1980.

Those relevant portions of NMAC Rule 92-6, Conduct of Licensees, filed 8/17/1992.

NMAC 80-8, Conduct of Boxing Bouts, filed 9/24/1980.
NMAC Rule 92-9, The Premises, Its Facilities And Equipment, filed 8/17/1992.
NMAC Rule 92-10, Conduct of Boxing Bouts, filed 8/17/1992.
NMAC 80-10, Boxing Classes And Championships, filed 9/24/1980.
Those relevant portions of NMAC Rule 92-12, Boxing Classes And Championships, filed 8/17/1992.

History of Repealed Material:

NMAC Rule 92-6 (aka 15 NMAC 6.4), Conduct of Licensees, filed 8/17/1992; repealed effective 3/23/2002.
NMAC Rule 92-9 (aka 15 NMAC 6.7), The Premises, Its Facilities And Equipment, filed 8/17/1992; repealed effective 3/23/2002.
NMAC Rule 92-10 (aka 15 NMAC 6.8), Conduct of Boxing Bouts, filed 8/17/1992; repealed effective 3/23/2002.
NMAC Rule 92-12 (aka 15 NMAC 6.10), Boxing Classes and Championships, filed 8/17/1992; repealed effective 3/23/2002.

Other History:

NMAC Rule 92-6 was recompiled into the first version of the New Mexico Administrative Code as 15 NMAC 6.4 and named Conduct of Licensees.
NMAC 92-9 was recompiled into the first version of the New Mexico Administrative Code as 15 NMAC 6.7 and named The Premises, Its Facilities And Equipment.
NMAC Rule 92-10 was recompiled into the first version of the New Mexico Administrative Code as 15 NMAC 6.8 and named Conduct of Boxing Contests.
NMAC Rule 92-12 was recompiled into the first version of the New Mexico Administrative Code as 15 NMAC 6.10 and named Boxing Classes and Championships.
15.6.8 NMAC, Conduct of Boxing Contests, replaced 15 NMAC 8, Conduct of Boxing Bouts, effective 3/23/2002.